

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 219910
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY: AF/E:GRBEYER
APPROVED BY: P:DDNEWSOM
AF:RMMOOSE
NEA/CEMARTHINSEN
NEA/ARP:APBURLEIGH

-----027400 302047Z /50

O 300028Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

S E C R E T STATE 219910

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: PFOR, MMOL, SO, ET, KE

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S MEETING AUGUST 28 WITH
SOMALI AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE 211455 (NOTAL)

1. UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM, ACCOMPANIED BY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY MOOSE, OPENED THE CONVERSATION WITH SOMALI
AMBASSADOR ADDOU AUGUST 28 BY REVIEWING THE CONTEXT OF
US RELATIONS WITH SOMALIA. HE NOTED, AS WELL, RECENT
DEVELOPMENTS IN THE AREA, I.E., THE WITHDRAWAL OF SOMALI
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 219910

FORCES FROM THE OGADEN, THE SOMALI BREAK WITH THE SOVIETS
AND SOMALI EXPECTATIONS OF HELP FROM THE WEST AND THE
DEATH OF KENYATTA. NEWSOM THEN READ OUR PROPOSED TALKING
POINTS AND GAVE ADDOU A COPY OF THEM FOR SIA TALKING
POINTS FOLLOW:

2. QUOTE: TALKING POINTS FOR REPLY TO AMBASSADOR ADDOU:

A. WE WELCOME PRESIDENT SIAD'S MESSAGE WITH ITS SUGGESTION OF MOVES TOWARD AN IMPROVEMENT IN SOMALIA'S RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS.

B. THE INITIATIVES PRESIDENT SIAD SUGGESTS COULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE RELAXATION OF TENSIONS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA AND TO REDUCE THE RATIONALE FOR FOREIGN TROOPS IN THE

AREA, PARTICULARLY IF THEY WERE COUPLED WITH DIRECT ACTIONS BY THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT RELATIVE TO ITS NEIGHBORS. SUCH MOVES WOULD REQUIRE POLITICAL COURAGE BUT WOULD BRING PRESIDENT SIAD THE RESPECT OF AFRICA AND THE REGION, AND ENABLE US TO PROVIDE TANGIBLE SUPPORT TO SOMALIA.

C. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT PRESIDENT SIAD CONSIDER SENDING AN EMISSARY TO THE KENYANS INDICATING THE PRESIDENT'S WILLINGNESS TO SIGN A NON-AGGRESSION PACT AND TO RENOUNCE ANY TERRITORIAL CLAIM AGAINST KENYA. THIS WOULD BE A PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT GESTURE AT THIS TIME BECAUSE OF KENYATTA'S RECENT DEATH. ALSO, WE SUGGEST A MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NIMEIRI OF THE OAU AND TO GENERAL OBASANJO THAT PRESIDENT SIAD HAS NO TERRITORIAL

CLAIM AGAINST HIS NEIGHBORS, INCLUDING DJIBOUTI, AND
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 219910

IS PREPARED TO SEEK A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE OGADEN PROBLEM.

D. HOWEVER, WE CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE INSURGENCY IN THE OGADEN. OBVIOUSLY, THE STEPS OUTLINED IN THE AIDE MEMOIRE, IN WHICH WE ARE DEEPLY INTERESTED, WILL NOT HAVE THEIR INTENDED EFFECT AS LONG AS THE LEVEL OF VIOLENCE IN THE OGADEN CONTINUES TO BE HIGH.

E. WITH POSITIVE ACTION ON ALL THE FACTORS I HAVE OUTLINED, COUPLED WITH PRESIDENT SIAD'S PROPOSED STATEMENT ON REVOLUTION DAY (OCTOBER 21), IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR THE U.S. TO WORK CLOSELY WITH SOMALIA ON A FULL RANGE OF MUTUAL OBJECTIVES. MOREOVER, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEND THE SURVEY TEAM AND TO CONSIDER AN INITIAL PROGRAM OF SUPPLY OF MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

F. TO ASSIST PRESIDENT SIAD TO MAKE RAPID AND VISIBLE PROGRESS ON A NUMBER OF MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THAT MIGHT BE FINANCED BY SAUDI ARABIA, THE UNITED STATES IS STILL PREPARED TO EXAMINE CLOSELY THE POSSIBILITY OF USING THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO

MANAGE SUCH PROJECTS. THE CORPS HAS ALREADY WORKED IN SOMALIA, AND MORE RECENTLY HAS BEEN HANDLING A NUMBER OF KEY PROJECTS IN SAUDI ARABIA.

G. THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATES PRESIDENT SIAD'S DESIRE TO CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER BUT FEELS IT IS PREMATURE AT THIS POINT TO CONSIDER THIS POSSIBILITY.
END QUOTE.

3. ADDOU REACTED CALMLY TO OUR PRESENTATION. HE WONDERED IF SIAD WOULD NOT CONSIDER THE OFFER OF

COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, OR OTHER NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT, AS A RETREAT FROM EARLIER PROMISED "DEFENSIVE EQUIPMENT." NEWSOM NOTED SOMALIA IS RECEIVING HELP FROM OTHERS AND,
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 219910

AFTER ASSESSING SOMALIA'S NEEDS, IT SEEMED THIS IS MATERIAL US IS ESPECIALLY CAPABLE OF SUPPLYING. WE CONTINUE TO BE AWARE OF SYMBOLIC VALUE OF VISIT BY MILITARY SURVEY TEAM.

4. ADDOU ASKED IF U.S. WOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPORT SUGGESTED DEMARCHE TO KENYANS BY USE OF ITS GOOD OFFICES. NEWSOM SAID HE BELIEVED SOMALIA'S DEMARCHE WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN THE FIRST INSTANCE IF IT REMAINED A STRICTLY SOMALI INITIATIVE IN AN AFRICAN CONTEXT.

5. ADDOU ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF THEREREFERENCE TO DJIBOUTI, IN THAT HE BELIEVES SOMALI-DJIBOUTI RELATIONS ARE GOOD AND THAT DJIBOUTI FEARS ETHIOPIA MORE THAN SOMALIA. WE EXPLAINED TO ADDOU THAT THE REFERENCE TO DJIBOUTI IS ONLY TO ASSURE THAT SIAD'S STATEMENT INCLUDES ALL STATES IN THE HORN. IT IS NOT INTENDED TO SUGGEST ANY DIFFICULTY BETWEEN SOMALIA AND DJIBOUTI.

6. MOOSE COMMENTED THAT SIAD'S OWN SUGGESTED MOVES WOULD BEGIN TO CHANGE THE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH SOMALIS MIGHT LIVE. HE HAD TALKED WITH SIAD ABOUT THIS WHEN HE WAS IN MOGADISCIO. THIS WOULD MEAN GREATER SECURITY FOR SOMALIA THAN ARMS ALONE. NEVERTHELESS, WHEN SOMALIA WITHDREW FROM THE OGADEN, WE WERE QUICK TO RESPOND TO SOMALIA'S NEED. IN A PROCEDURAL SENSE, WE HAVE MOVED QUITE FAR AND THE OFFER OF MILITARY COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT COULD NOT, AND SHOULD NOT, BE SEEN AS A RETREAT FROM THE OFFER EARLIER MADE.

7. ADDOU REITERATED CONCERNS HE HAD MENTIONED IN FIRST MEETING AUGUST 16 WHEN DELIVERING AIDE MEMOIRE (REFTEL). HE CONCLUDED BY EXPRSSING HOPE THAT WE WOULD GIVE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 219910

SIAD ENOUGH BACKING TO PERMIT HIM TO TAKE STEPS PROPOSED.

8. NEWSOM CLOSED MEETING NOTING ADDOU SHOULD STRESS TWO POINTS TO SIAD: A) THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT IN HIS MIND THAT THE U.S. WANTS TO HELP SOMALIA AND UNDER SIAD'S LEADERSHIP; AND B) WHILE WE APPRECIATE ALL OF SIAD'S PROBLEMS AT PRESENT, WE BELIEVE HE HAS A TREMENDOUS OPPORTUNITY. IF HE DOES WHAT HE HAS PROPOSED, THE BENEFITS TO SOMALIA WOULD BE ENORMOUS. ONCE THIS PROCESS IS BEGUN, WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND THE MILITARY SURVEY TEAM BECAUSE WE APPRECIATE HOW IMPORTANT THE SYMBOLIC

VALUE IS OF THE TEAM. WE HAVE NOT URGED WHAT IS IMPOSSIBLE, THUS WE ARE SUGGESTING SIAD GO TO NIMEIRI AND OBASANJO. IF SIAD PERSEVERES, HE MAY NOT GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE LEADER WHO BROUGHT THE OGADEN TO SOMALIA, BUT HE MAY BE KNOWN AS THE LEADER WHO MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE SOMALIS TO LIVE IN PEACE IN THE HORN OF AFRICA.

9. FOR JIDDA AND CAIRO: YOU SHOULD DRAW ON FOREGOING TO BRIEF SAUDIS AND EGYPTIANS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE PREFER THEY HEAR OUR RESPONSE TO SIAD DIRECTLY FROM US RATHER THAN FROM SOMALIS

10. COMMENT: TO OUR SURPRISE ADDOU TOOK THE PRESENTATION IN STRIDE, ASKING ONLY THE FEW QUESTIONS NOTED. HE DID NOT ARGUE OR OBJECT TO THE OVERALL PROPOSITION AND HE EXUDED NONE OF THE AIR OF CRISIS AND IMPENDING DOOM WHICH WAS SO PROMINENT UPON HIS RETURN FROM MOGADISCIO. ADDOU TOLD US HE PLANS TO RETURN TO MOGADISCIO BY SUNDAY, HAS ONLY DAY OR TWO TO SEE SIAD BEFORE LATTER LEAVES FOR EUROPE, AND THEN ADDOU WILL RETURN IN "2-3 WEEKS." ALL-IN-ALL A MORE LEISURELY APPROACH TO THINGS THAN ADDOU DESCRIBED IN OUR LAST MEETING.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 06 STATE 219910

CHRISTOPHER

NOTE: THIS MSG UPGRADED TO EXDIS AS PER STATE 220285

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS, MILITARY PLANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE219910
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/E:GRBEYER
Enclosure: HANDLING RESTRICTION PER 78 STATE 220285 DTD 8/30/78
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780363-0151
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978088/aaaaagec.tel
Line Count: 220
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 22c2ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 211455
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1783224
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S MEETING AUGUST 28 WITH SOMALI AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PDIP, PFOR, MMOL, SO, ET, KE, (NEWSOM, DAVID D), (ADDOU, ABDULLAHI AHMED), (MOOSE, RICHARD)
To: MOGADISCIO JIDDA MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/22c2ea65-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014